



United States Department of Agriculture

FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE

Food Distribution Division

Programs Overview

Steven W. Thomas

ACDA April 2006

All The Information You Need But Didn't Know Who To Ask



United States Department of Agriculture
Commodity Food Network



www.commodityfoods.usda.gov



United States Department of Agriculture Commodity Food Network



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- ▶ [FDA Recalls & Alerts](#)
- ▶ [FSIS Recalls](#)
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- ▶ [Top Stories](#)

USDA Agencies

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- ▶ [Farm Service Agency \(FSA\)/Commodity Operations](#)
- ▶ [Food & Nutrition Service \(FNS\)/Food Distribution](#)
- ▶ [Food Safety & Inspection Service](#)

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Welcome to CFN

The USDA Commodity Food Network (CFN) is the first ever one-stop Federal website that provides direct access to all services and resources available for the USDA Commodity Food Distribution Programs

In the News



Programs

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- [DoD Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program](#)
- [FD Program on Indian Reservations](#)
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- [Schools and Child Nutrition Institutions](#)
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ECOS



**Electronic Commodity
Ordering System**



Your Online Resource for
Recalls and Food Safety
Information

Featured Topics

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- ▶ [Applicant Eligibility](#)
- ▶ [Business/Industry](#)
- ▶ [Commercial Item Descriptions](#)
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- ▶ [Regs/Laws/Chapula](#)
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Commodity Programs

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- ▶ [Fruit & Vegetable](#)
- ▶ [Dairy Products](#)
- ▶ [Domestic Processed Products](#)
- ▶ [National Organic Program](#)
- ▶ [Poultry & Eggs](#)



Web Site Accessibility



COMMODITY PROGRAM ORGANIZATION

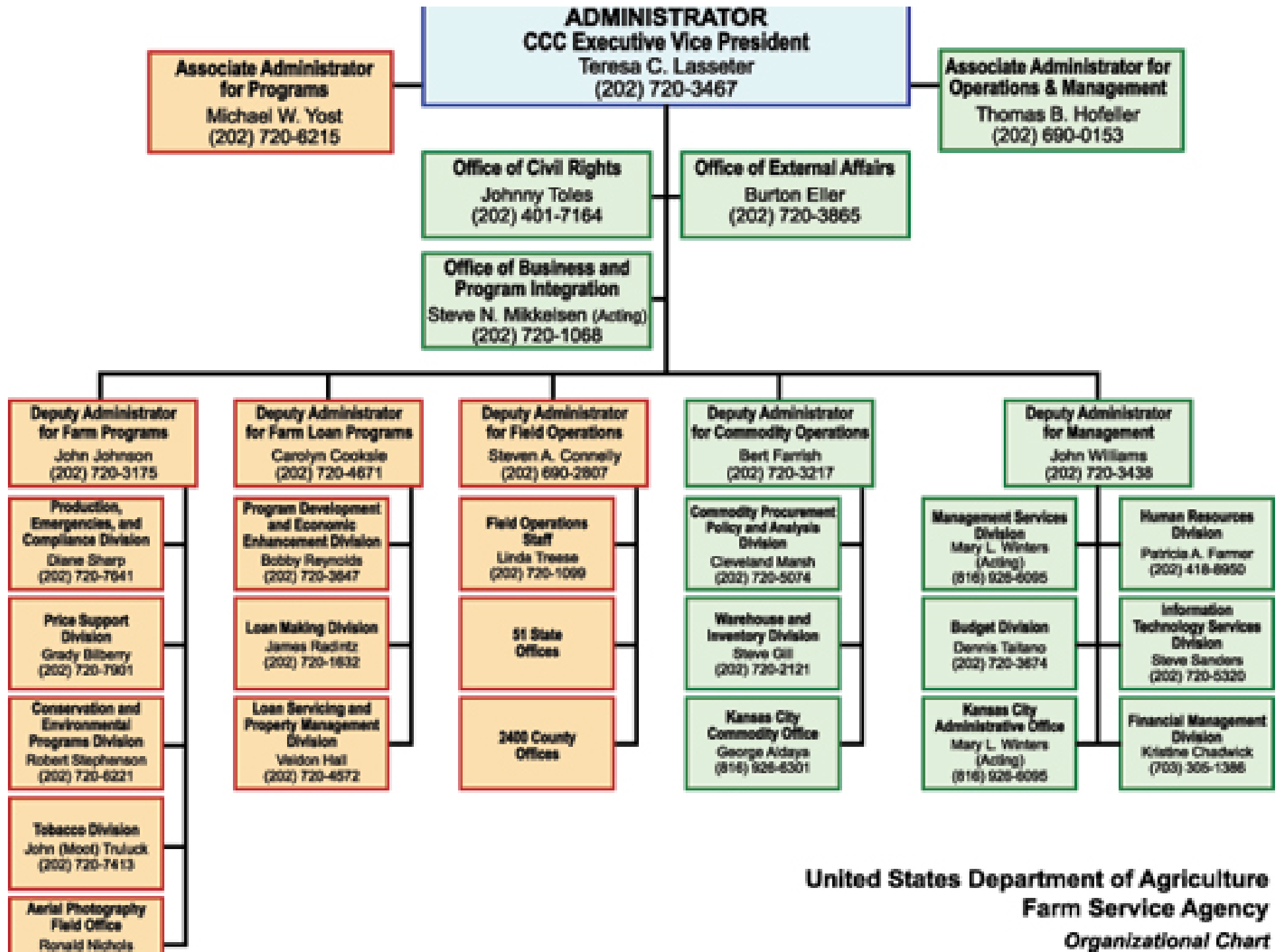
Secretary of
USDA

Food and
Nutrition
Service
(FNS)

Agricultural
Marketing
Service
(AMS)

Farm Service
Agency
(FSA)

Food Safety
and
Inspection
Service (FSIS)



United States Department of Agriculture
Farm Service Agency
Organizational Chart



KCCO
Dairy & Domestic
Operations Division
Patricia Jennings

Grain Products
Branch
Christine Gouger

Procurement &
Warehouse Branch
Nancy Heintzelman

Dairy Procurement
& Inventory Branch
William "Bill" Lang

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

Administrator – Lloyd C. Day

Associate Administrator – Kenneth C. Clayton

Phone 202/720-5115

Transportation & Marketing
Barbara Robinson
202/690-1300

Science & Technology
Robert Epstein
202/720-5231

Compliance & Analysis
Dave Lewis
202/720-6766

Dairy
Dana Coale
202/720-4392

Cotton
Darryl Earnest
202/720-3193

Civil Rights
Ruihong Guo
202/720-0583

Poultry
Craig Morris, Deputy Adm.
Rex Barnes
202/720-4476

Livestock & Seed
Barry Carpenter, Deputy Admin.
William Sessions
Randall Jones
202/720-5705

Fruit & Vegetable
Robert Keeney, Dep. Admin.
Eric Forman
Charles Parrott
202/720-4722

Grading
Charles Johnson
202/720-3271

Grading & Certification
Larry Meadows
202/720-1246

PACA
Bruce Summers
202/720-2272

Commodity Procurement
Dennis Pearson
202/720-7693

Commodity Procurement
Duane Williams
202/720-2650

Economic Analysis
Bill Brantley
202/720-2615

Market News
Michael Sheats
202/720-6911

Market News
John Van Dyke
202/720-6231

Market News
Terry Long
202/720-2745

Standardization
David Bowden
202/720-3506

Standardization
Martin O'Connor
202/720-4486

Marketing Orders
Michael Durando
202/720-2491

Market News Support
Jeffrey Test
202/720-7776

Audit Review & Compliance
James Riva
202/720-2647

Food Quality Assurance
John Lund
202/720-9939

Research & Promotion
Angela Snyder
760/386-0424

Seed Regulatory & Testing
Richard Payne
704/810-8871

Research & Promotion
Margaret Irby
202/720-9915

Commodity Procurement
David Tuckwiller
202/720-4517

Fresh Products
Leanne Skelton
202/720-5870

Processed Products
Terry Bane
202/720-4693

Identity Preservation
Marlene Betts
202/720-8980

Research & Promotion
Kenneth Payne
202/720-1115



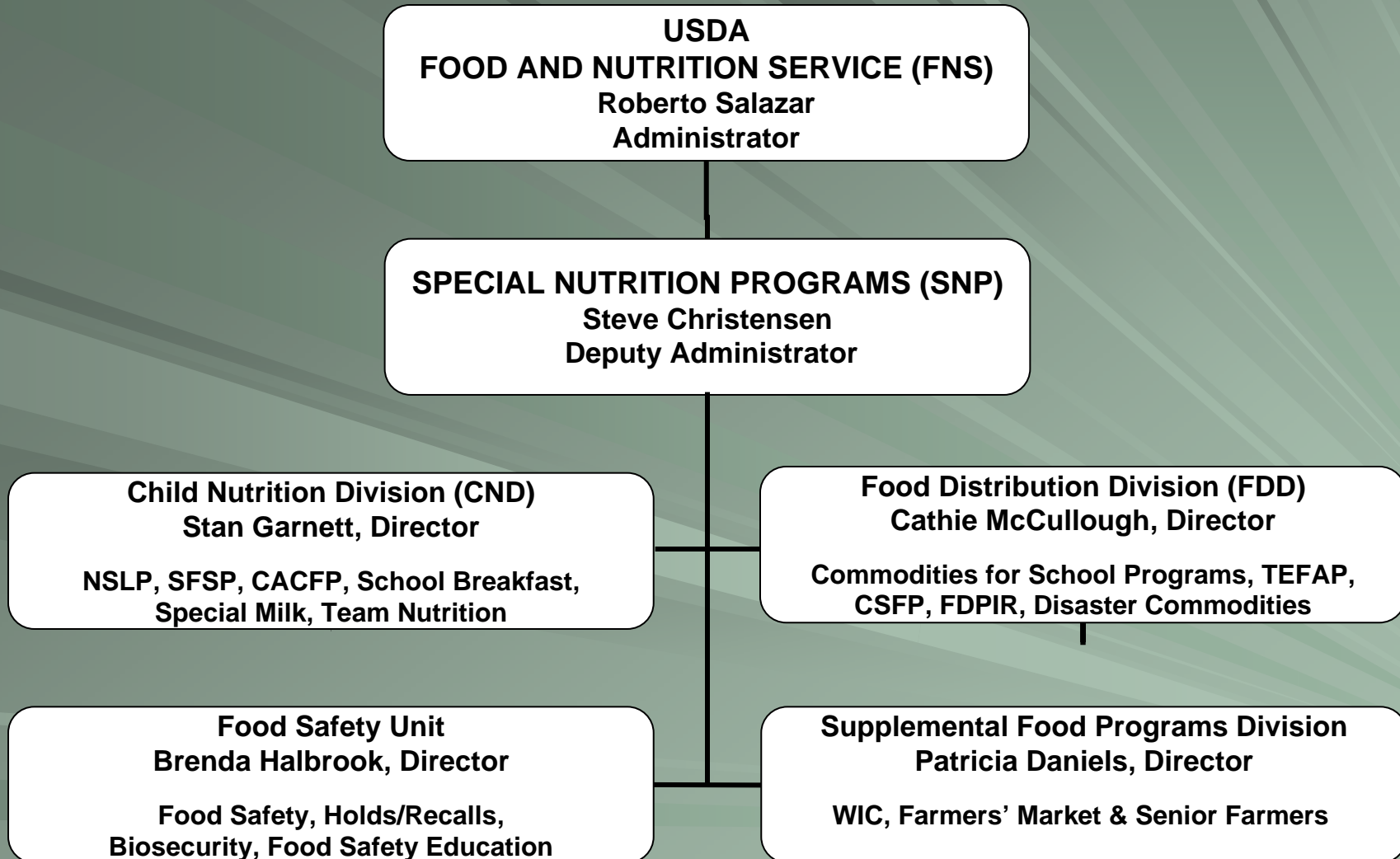
**Agricultural
Marketing Service**

Fruit & Vegetable
Dave Tuckwiller

Poultry
Dennis Pearson

Livestock & Seed
Duane Williams

Organization of Special Nutrition Programs





FOOD DISTRIBUTION DIVISION

Director
Cathie
McCullough

**Policy
Branch**
Laura Castro

**Operations
Branch**
Peggy Cantfil

**Program
Support
Branch**
Ros Cleveland

**Systems
Branch**
Dennis Sullivan

Food Distribution Programs Have a Dual Objective

- Improve nutrition of families and children
- Support agriculture



Food and Nutrition Service Food Distribution Programs

FNS/FDD administers USDA's commodity programs

- ✓ **Coordinates distribution of approximately 1.9 billion pounds of food valued at approximately \$1.6 billion**
- ✓ **Serves about 98,000 public and non-profit private schools as well as organizations feeding low income populations**

Commodity Purchase and Distribution Responsibilities

- ❑ **FNS/FDD is responsible for allocating entitlement funds to States, managing orders, and working directly with Regional Offices, States, and Indian Tribal Organizations**
- ❑ **Farm Service Agency (FSA) and Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) are responsible for purchasing commodities, inspection/grading, where required, and managing logistics**
- ❑ **Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) provides national food safety inspection, shares this responsibility with FDA, and is our point of contact on commodity hold and recall issues**

How Purchases are Made

- **USDA announces its intention to buy a commodity product**
- **Invitations are let for bids**
- **Contracts are awarded**
- **Products are delivered to State designated locations:**
 - warehouses, commercial processors, or commercial distributors

FNS FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAMS

SCHOOLS & INSTITUTIONS HOUSEHOLD PROGRAMS

- *National School Lunch Program (NSLP)*
- *Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)*
- *Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)*
- *Nutrition Services Incentive Program (NSIP)*
- *Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)*
- *Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)*
- *The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)*
- *Disaster Feeding (S&I and HH)*

Child Nutrition Programs (NSLP, CACFP, SFSP)

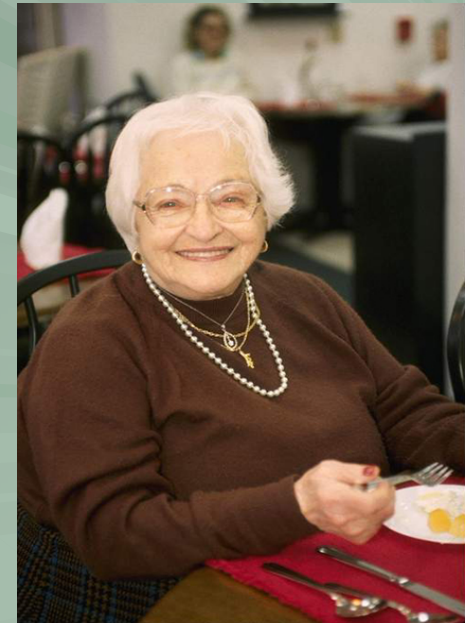
- ◉ **Commodities comprise about 15-20% of the food used in schools**
- ◉ **Over 145 commodity foods are offered to schools**
- ◉ **Many are purchased in ready-to-use form, but some are purchased in bulk for further processing**

FDD Processing Responsibilities

- Approves National Processing Agreement
- Approves EPDS's and summary EPDS
- Establishes, holds and monitors bond
- Monitors National Monthly Performance Reports
- Approves sales verification process, if applicable.

Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)

- © Low-income pregnant and post-partum women, children under 6, elderly 60+ receive a food package
- © Operates in 32 states, 2 ITOs and DC
- © Participation is about 90% elderly



The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)

- * Donations of healthful USDA commodities for low income and needy**
- * States determine income thresholds and distribution frequency**
- * Distributed primarily through food banks, food pantries, and soup kitchens**

Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)

- ▶ 5 States and 97 tribes participated in FY 2005**
- ▶ About 99,000 persons served monthly**
- ▶ Recipients receive a commodity food package monthly in lieu of food stamps**



FDD PROMOTES FRUIT & VEGETABLE CONSUMPTION

- Since SY/FY 2003 \$50 million entitlement funds have been allocated for procurement of fresh fruits and vegetables for schools through DoD
- 46 states, DC, VI, PR and Guam plan to participate next school year
- AMS also purchases fresh, canned, and frozen fruits and vegetables for the commodity programs

ECOS

USDA Electronic Commodity Ordering System

Welcome to USDA Online Ordering

Login:
Password:

Or enter as a guest and browse our [catalog](#).



USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) was established to provide:

- needy people with access to a more nutritious diet
- improve the eating habits of the nation's children
- stabilize farm prices through the distribution of surplus foods

The Food Distribution Division (FDD) at FNS Headquarters works with Regional Offices (RO) and State Distributing Agencies (SDA) to determine the commodities available to the many different food assistance programs.

FNS calculates the respective "fair share" of commodities for each SDA based on entitlement and budget data.

This site allows SDAs and Recipient Agencies (RA) to place orders for the commodities offered by FNS.

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What Is ECOS?

- Internet-based system that allows States to electronically submit commodity orders to USDA
- Provides the capability for States without systems to gather commodity preference information from recipients
- Provides commodity entitlement (PAL) and order monitoring and reporting

ECOS Users

**Over 4800 registered users
(continually increasing)**

- All State Agencies
- Recipient agencies
- Industry (processors, warehouses/distributors)
- USDA



Recipient agencies using ECOS

- All schools in VA, CT, GA, NC, UT, FL, MD, NE, KY
- Limited use in CA, MI, NY, TN, TX

The Future of ECOS

- Ultimate access at all client levels
- Eliminate paper flow – States, Recipients, Processors, Distributors
- Increase information sharing
- Real time access to information
- Food safety alerts

Food Distribution Priorities!

- **Training** (*FD-101, etc.*)
- **Information Technology** (*ECOS, web site, etc.*)
- **Policy** (*CFR 250 rewrite*)
- **Processing** (*National Agreements*)
- **Commodity Ordering** (*Centralization at HQ*)



QUESTIONS ?

